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JUL 23 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Arturo A. Rodriguez, et al.
Application No. 09/896, 231
Filed: June 29, 2001
Attorney Docket No. A-7259

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ON PETITION

This is a decision in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed March 11, 2008, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is GRANTED.

This application became abandoned for failure to timely respond to a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences mailed November 6, 2007. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed January 16, 2008. In response on March 11, 2008, the present petition was filed, along with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114.

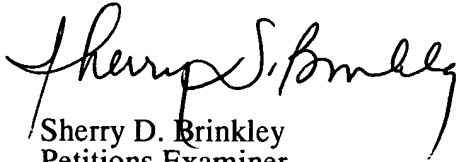
There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. However, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.34(a), the signature of David Rodack appearing on the petition shall constitute a representation to the United States Patent and Trademark Office that he is authorized to represent the particular party on whose behalf he acts. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to petitioner. However, if Mr. Rodack desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. All future correspondence regarding this application file will be directed solely to the address of record.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), including the fee of \$810 and the submission required by 37 CFR 1.114; (2) the petition fee of \$1,540; and (3) an adequate statement of unintentional delay¹.

¹ 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. While the statement is not made by an attorney of record, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and *Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure*; Final Rule Notice, 62 *Fed. Reg.* 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2623 for processing of the RCE and for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the amendment submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.114.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3204. Inquiries relating to further prosecution should be directed to the Technology Center.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sherry D. Brinkley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sherry" being more prominent.

Sherry D. Brinkley
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: DAVID RODACK
600 GALLERIA PARKWAY, SUITE 1500
ATLANTA, GA 30339